

# THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY

VOL. XXIII.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 12TH, 1897.

NUMBER 2

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**"A CHILD'S PORTRAIT"**

I gaze upon your picture, oh my Sweet!  
 And pray that God may bless you all day long—  
 Moon, moon and night—and guide your nimble feet  
 With fearless steps, life's thorny ways along!  
 And tenderly I kiss your little hands;  
 Each task that they may daily find to do.  
 May they with care perform whatever commands  
 The will of Providence reserves for you!  
 And lovingly I kiss your chubby lips;  
 May they ne'er utter but what's true and pure!  
 May you be watchful be, lest ought these lips  
 But words to soothe, or innocent mirth allude!

And gently as I kiss your tranquil brow;  
 (My thanks the next of the mind within)  
 I pray that Time so bountifully you endow  
 That you may Wisdom's laurels early win!  
 And fondly as I gaze into your eyes  
 In soft repose—anon so full of mirth—  
 The wisdom of the soul that, truth them lies  
 The being heart—most matchless pearl of Earth!

I pray that you be get and soul and body combine

With love and lips, and never hands and feet.

To form a Maiden human yet divine—

That future child, my Sweet!

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to be eaten by crocodiles. I can assure you these were not pleasant thoughts during our weary days.

About the only satisfaction myself and companions had as we pondered over such a fate was to shoot the crocodiles. We found this was small satisfaction. Unless you hit one of these reptiles in the eye or just behind the ear, a bullet has no effect on them. I saw them shot in the head. They would simply raise a little out of the water and shake their heads and pay no further attention to the attack.

"When we had nearly exhausted our supply of fuel and our provisions were at a very low ebb, we came to a little creek which emptied into the river. The pilot then gladdened our hearts by announcing that we were near Manaus. It is delightful to look back to that moment now, after the danger is all passed, and contemplate it. Well, we reached Manaus all right. There is an American company operating iron mines there. By the way, the ore is very rich, and is shipped from there to Philadelphia. Of course we got plenty of fuel and a good supply of food, such as it was. However, it served to keep body and soul together. Then we started out again.

"The further we proceeded, the rougher was the river. It finally became so wide at one point that it might be described as an inland sea, and a very choppy one at that. Early one morning, after we had been anchored for the night, for we never dared to travel except in daylight, we lost our anchor. Our little craft began drifting and we realized our perilous position. There was a large rock projecting from the bank within forty feet of the boat.

"With the assistance of the pilot and the men employed on the boat, I got a lot of camp-bon together, with which I improvised another anchor. I look back at it now as a very humorous event, and never think of it without feeling inclined to laugh. One of my companions, believing that his moments were numbered, undressed himself, and, taking a pail, began dipping up water from the river, with which he drenched his body. After we had utilized the improvised anchor I directed my attention to the curious action of my companion. I was inclined to think for a moment that he had suddenly become bereft of his senses owing to fear. I asked him what he meant.

"My idea of supreme happiness is when I am taking a bath," he said. "I have always felt that when the hour arrived for me to die, that I would like to be in a bath-tub. I thought we were about to start for the next world, and as there was no bath tub to utilize, I have been bathing in this fashion, as you see."

"The next night we came to a little opening in which was situated a deserted Indian hut. The trees and branches extended over the river bank, and we were often able to tie the launch up to the limbs of some tree, which we did this night, and went ashore. We thought it would be a nice change to fix our hammocks up in this hut. We started to carry this arrangement into effect when one of the natives in the crew came along and said that a peculiar odor in the hut indicated that it was the lair of tigers. He advised us to get away as fast as possible. I can assure you that we lost no time in returning to our launch.

"Getting on board as quickly as possible, we each secured a rifle. It was not practicable to move the boat in the darkness, so we sat up all night upon the deck of the launch with rifles cocked and in hand, waiting for the tiger to come along. However, none appeared. The next day we stopped at another hut, occupied by some Indians, and we were informed that but very recently two travelers had taken possession of the old deserted hut which we had visited the night before with the intention of spending the night, just as we had intended to do. While the men were asleep a tiger entered, injuring one of them and killing the other.

**DANGERS OF THE ORINOCO.**

A few months ago, Mr. W. B. Schofield of New York made a business trip to Venezuela, and his account of a voyage up the Orinoco, as reproduced in the *New York Times*, is intensely interesting.

"I left for Venezuela on June 27, accompanied by two companions," said Mr. Schofield. "Not knowing much regarding the navigation of the Orinoco river, we navigated it with a steam launch 37 feet in length. We went to Venezuela on board a sailing vessel; reaching the mouth of the river we found that it would not be practicable for the vessel to tow our launch up the river, for there was very little breeze.

"Having fitted out our launch, we started upon our journey with a pilot and two men who ran the craft. The pilot, by the way, was a little stiff in his manner toward me at the start, for he had received the impression that I was an Englishman. When this was corrected, and he learned that I was an American he became most affable, and remarked that he and I were fellow countrymen.

"We had not proceeded very far up the river before we realized that we had a difficult undertaking. The current of the river is extremely swift, and frequently miniature whirlpools are encountered. Some of these are very strong, and with a launch only 37 feet long, as we had, it was very hard work overcoming these treacherous obstacles. As a result of these whirlpools and the swift current we did not make anything like the speed that we had expected, and our supply of provisions and fuel began to run very low. There was no immediate prospect of replenishing these.

"It was much easier to economize with the little food we had left, than it was with the fuel. In order to carry our boat along against the current and through the whirlpools it was very necessary to keep on a full head of steam. The soil along the river is most fertile, and everything grows in great profusion. It is a regular jungle along the banks, and to a stranger it would appear that fuel could readily be secured. Not so, however. The timber and all sorts of wood are very green, and of course could not be utilized for fuel. A person might travel ten miles through this dense bush without finding a dead tree.

Our only hope, then, for replenishing our supply of fuel was in reaching some settlement, and there was none very near. Our state of mind can well be imagined. Out of fuel and out of food, that we would either end our existence in a watery grave or would starve to death was ever present in our minds. The river is prolific in caribe fish and crocodiles which average twenty feet in length.

"These caribe fish travel in large shoals, and if a person should fall overboard and come in contact with one of these shoals, they would reduce his body to a skeleton in about two minutes. If this was not to be our fate, the only other alternative to think of was

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And in all the principal cities of Brazil.

**Relojeria da Boiea**

"New encounters confronted us when we reached Barancas, which is the first port of entry on the river, and where we expected to get a new supply of provisions and fuel. We were able to get very little. What few things we secured were onions, for which we paid 20 cents a pound; potatoes, at 15 cents a pound, and soda crackers, at 40 cents a pound. All these things were imported. I found that nearly all food is imported. We could not find native sweet potatoes. I was informed that the ground is so very fertile that it is almost impossible to keep the weeds down, and therefore almost impossible to raise anything in this section of Venezuela except a little corn. They could raise a good many other things if the ground was properly tilled.

"It was with the customs officers that we had our great trouble at this place. We went to Venezuela, as I have said, on a sailing vessel with the launch, and we were just like so much freight. We had no registry or clearing papers for the launch. There is a very kindly feeling toward Americans, and after we had explained the situation we were given clearing papers, and our little launch became known as the American steamship Augusta. Then we hoisted the Venezuelan flag and the Stars and Stripes.

"We tried to feel as proud of our craft as if she was an ocean greyhound, but it was impossible to imagine this very long after we got into the swift currents again. We again felt the need of food and fuel. After trying experiences similar to our former ones, we reached Castillo de Guiana, which is a military station. It is a very picturesque spot, and there is a large fort where which commands the river. However, I think any one of our naval vessels could thoroughly demolish this fort and proceed upon its way up the Orinoco.

"There was one very pleasant recollection of the trip, and that was the comparatively cool nights. Considering that we were in low land, which is not more than fifteen feet above the sea level, one would not expect to have been so comfortable as we were. During the same period traveling on the Missouri or the Mississippi, a person would not, I think, be as free from the torture of heat. Several nights I slept under a blanket.

"Our great difficulty at night was in protecting ourselves from the mosquitoes. The Jersey or Long Island mosquitoes cannot compare with the Venezuela species. The Venezuelan insect is to be found not only in greater numbers, but in greater variety. There is the smaller mosquito, that can go through any net with great convenience, so that there is no escaping them. Its bite is more poisonous than those of the big fellows."

Here Mr. Schofield held out his hands to exhibit several scars as souvenirs of the South American mosquito.

"Another peculiar thing about these mosquitoes," continued Mr. Schofield, "is that they travel in a body. One night my companions and the members of the crew went on land to sleep. I slept on the deck of the launch. Those on land were not more than sixty feet away, and they were kept awake all night fighting mosquitoes. They remarked to each other that the pests were probably even more industrious out on the river where the launch was. Forgetting their own troubles, they expressed regret for my suffering. Not a mosquito came near me, and I slept soundly all night.

"Once again before reaching Ciudad Bolivar we had an experience that wasn't calculated to do our nerves much good. It was where the river forked, and there were several curves and a number of rocks projecting into the stream. The propeller became disabled by being clogged by weeds. We were fearful lest the launch should drift against these rocks and be shattered. One of the men, however, swam under the boat and managed to get the weeds out of the propeller. That was the last of our trouble, and we reached Ciudad Bolivar

in safety. I do not suppose any party ever reached a destination with a greater feeling of joy than we did. It will be hardly necessary to say that we did not return in the launch."

"A London newspaper said some weeks ago that there were some rich finds of gold in Venezuela. Did you hear anything about them?" Mr. Schofield was asked.

"No; I heard of no great discoveries of recent date. I think the reports of gold mining in Venezuela are greatly exaggerated. The remark made in regard to Cripple Creek could be well applied to the Venezuelan gold fields."

"What did you think of the Venezuelan Indians as compared with ours?"

"The Venezuelan Indians are very faithful creatures. They are very loyal, and, if they start out with you, you can depend upon it they will stand by you. They are more industrious than our Indians. True, they do not work very hard, because it is not necessary. They live on very little. Those who live in the bush, away from the towns, are very simple, as, for instance, an experience which I had with one the first day of our journey will show. The Indian's only idea of value is a cinco fuerte, which represents \$5 in gold. The Indian to whom I refer had a lot of fish, for which he asked us a cinco fuerte. Instead we gave him a drink of whisky, a plate of soup, and a couple of handfuls of hard tack. He was very much satisfied with his bargain, and seemed to think he had imposed upon us.

"The Indians look down upon the negroes as their inferiors, although there is no clashing between the two races. You will see the negro and the Indian working and eating together. When the blacks have any white blood in their veins, they resent being classed as negroes or as belonging to that race. They call themselves Americans or Venezuelans. I found the people in Venezuela of the better class to be very polite and straightforward in their dealings. I am very much pleased with the treatment we received at their hands."

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This establishment, the first in Brazil, for its elegance, comfort and situation amidst forests and enjoying the most magnificent scenery views of the mountains, town, the harbor and high seas, is most suitable for families and gentlemen of distinction.

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For invalids and convalescents Theresopolis is unquestionably the best resort in the neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro. It is higher and dryer than either Petropolis or Nova Friburgo, and has long been considered favorable for those suffering from weak lungs.

The railway from Petrolândia to Bananal (at the foot of the mountains) is now in operation.

For further information apply to

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## Grande Hotel dos Estrangeiros

PRAÇA FERREIRA VIANNA

(Cattete)

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This hotel, which has been completely restored, is situated in the best part of the city, receiving air and light from all four sides, close to the cleanest beach of the city, surrounded by a large garden; has large, comfortable rooms, new and well furnished, good shower and warm baths, disinfectants in the water-closets, drinking water filtered by the Pasteur system, good table service, and is, therefore, to be considered the first hotel of this capital.

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This popular Hotel has been completely and thoroughly restored and has been provided with sanitary improvement, of every description, including a hygienic system of sewerage flushing tanks and ventilating pipes.

The apartments have been repainted and repapered throughout and are luxuriously furnished. The dining-room has also been refurnished, and no expense has been spared to make this

The most comfortable Hotel

in the city. The baths have likewise been improved.

As before, particular pains will be taken to provide the guests of this Hotel with a first-class table, and with the best of service and attention. The electric tram passes the door every few minutes, making it the most convenient as well as the pleasantest Hotel in Rio de Janeiro.

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Rua da Alfândega, 83.

**Missing Friends.**

Information wanted at the British Consulate General,  
No. 9, Rua General Camargo as to the following:  
NEWMARK, John — Left his native town, Zempflau,  
Germany, about a year ago for Rio de Janeiro. Informa-  
tion regarding him is desired at the British Consulate.  
Rio de Janeiro, October 27th, 1896.

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BRAZIL.

AN American exchange says that one of the  
latest deliveries on the subject of the press  
from the pulpit is that of the Rev. Dr. Lyman  
Abbott in his hitherto rare sermon to the stu-  
dents at Harvard. From the point of view of  
the press there was no better paragraph in Dr.  
Abbott's sermon than this: "The journalist is  
the historian. It is more important to know  
what is going on to-day than what occurred in  
ancient Greece. We hear the cry that murders,  
divorces and all crimes should be kept from the  
press. No! We want a press that shall tell  
the vices of mankind as well as the virtues.  
The press is a looking glass. We look into it  
and we see ourselves very clearly. But do not want  
to find fault with the glass. We want to wash  
ourselves."

IN the United States of America we have an  
instance of a customs union which, in fact,  
does not admit of revision. There is complete  
free trade between the several states, and  
that free trade cannot be abandoned, yet the  
customs union has caused no disturbance.  
North and South have quarrelled about slavery;  
East and West are now antagonistic upon the  
question of silver; but the customs union  
arouses no opposition in any section of the  
country. Why should that be impossible in  
the case of the British empire which has proved  
very practicable in the case of the United  
States? All that is wanted is a spirit of  
give-and-take upon all sides, and a firm resolu-  
tion to maintain the integrity of the empire,  
come what may. Without such a spirit, of  
course a customs union, or any other kind of  
union, could not work well. With such a  
spirit, we do not see why it should not. —  
*The Statist.*

**THE CUBAN STRUGGLE.**

The cable advices of the 5th inst. that  
Gen. Maximo Gomez had crossed the  
trocha at Júcaro and is marching into  
the province of Santa Clara, will make  
the following interview with his chief of  
artillery specially interesting. We take  
the interview from the *New York Times*,  
(November) and it will be seen that this  
reported movement in Santa Clara is  
closely in accord with the campaign  
predicted. The interview was as follows:  
Col. Stuart Weatherley, chief of ar-  
tillery on the staff of Gen. Maximo  
Gomez, is in New-York, after a year of  
adventurous campaigning with the  
Cuban army. He is silent as to his mis-  
sion in the United States, but gave  
to a reporter for the *New York Times*  
yesterday many facts concerning the  
military situation in the island that have  
not heretofore been published.

Col. Weatherley is an Englishman,  
with a record in the African wars. He  
is about thirty-five years old, and has  
the dark eyes and black hair and beard  
of the Castilian type. Before he went  
to Cuba he was a student in Spanish  
literature, and he now speaks the ver-  
nacular of the island like a native.

The story of Col. Weatherley's enlist-  
ment in the Cuban cause was told a  
year ago, just before he left with the  
Horse expedition to join the revolu-  
tionary army. This expedition was in-  
terrupted off the Cuban coast, a mile  
from Santiago de Cuba, and the military  
stores designed for Gomez went down  
with all of the ship's boats except one.  
Col. Weatherley was in the boat that  
escaped, and had with him a single  
piece of artillery. During the winter,  
after several weeks of campaigning with  
Gen. Rabi in command of the insurgent  
division of Santiago de Cuba, Col.  
Weatherley reached Gomez and deliv-  
ered to him the first piece of artillery  
acquired by the revolutionary army. His  
return to the United States was beset  
by equal difficulties, having been made  
in a small open boat in the stormy  
weather of the sub-tropical fall season.

Gen. Maguire Rodriguez was cam-  
paigning in this district in midwinter  
when Col. Weatherley was in the Rabi  
command, and the English officer was  
soon appointed on his staff and remained  
with him until his division reached  
Gomez. From that time on Col. Weat-  
herley has been constantly on the march  
and in the camp of the Cuban leader,  
whom he pronounces one of the greatest  
military tacticians of the times.

"Gen. Gomez," said Col. Weatherley,  
"is a brave and shrewd soldier, as well  
as a patriot. These qualities have enabled  
him to subdue and control the wild  
spirits in his army. They will follow  
him anywhere. This has been shown in  
a hundred engagements during the past  
year, in which at the end of their ter-  
rible machete charges the revolutionists  
have drawn off victors. Their warfare  
is of a distinctly new kind. In practically  
every battle the Cubans have their  
choice of position, and they usually  
begin in ambush. The battle goes on  
until the Spanish lines show signs of  
wavering, when Gen. Gomez is always  
ready with his grim command, 'La  
Machete.' This cry always means to the  
Cuban soldier the beginning of the vic-  
tory. They understand that when Gen.  
Gomez says 'La Machete' they have  
but to charge and the battle is won."  
The Cuban leaders, including Gen.  
Gomez and Gen. Maceo, according to  
Col. Weatherley, believe that within a  
few months the island will be free.

"They are fully advised," said he, "of  
the elaborate preparations for an aggres-  
sive winter campaign now going on in  
the Spanish army, but are not dismayed.  
While Spain is strengthening her army  
both in numbers and position the revo-  
lutionists are closing in upon them from  
the east and west, and dominate prac-  
tically every part of the island not  
actually held as bases of operation by  
the Spanish."

It is impossible to conceive, without  
having actually seen it, the difference  
a year has made in the condition of the  
Cuban soldiers. A year ago their situa-  
tion was well-nigh hopeless. One hun-

or any other unexpected blow to Spain,  
Havana will fall within eight months,  
and the republic of Cuba will be estab-  
lished.

"The revolutionists have now started  
their second invasion of the provinces  
occupied by Gen. Weyler's armies. They  
will not stop until he evacuates Havana.  
Gen. Rodriguez, in command of the van-  
guard of Gen. Gomez's army of inva-  
sion, consisting of 800 picked men, has  
probably by this time passed Weyler's  
famous trocha in the province of Ha-  
vana, and delivered important dispatches  
to Gen. Maceo in Pinar del Rio. Gen.  
Gomez is now organizing the contin-  
gent in the vicinity of La Yaya, near  
Puerto Principe, and will start to join  
Maceo before Havana about the middle  
of next month, with about 10,000 men.  
His march this time will differ from the  
first invasion. Every Spanish outpost  
in the country will be reduced as he goes  
along. Gen. Calixto Garcia will re-  
main behind with a strong division of the  
army and will within a few weeks re-  
duce the town of Puerto Principe, and  
possibly Santiago de Cuba."

"The first great battle of the final  
campaign for Cuban independence will  
probably take place at the Trocha Moron  
between the provinces of Camagney and  
Las Villas. Trocha Moron is well forti-  
fied, and is held by 8,000 Spaniards.  
There will be hard fighting all through  
the provinces of Las Villas, Matanzas,  
and Havana by the command of Gen.  
Gomez. While this territory is being  
subdued by Gomez, Gen. Maceo will en-  
gage the Spanish forces in the west, and  
Gen. Calixto Garcia will conduct the  
operations in the Oriente and Camagney,  
reducing Las Villas and the minor  
towns now held by the Spanish. With  
the revolutionary forces all engaged for  
the first time in a general advance upon  
Havana there will be no alternative for  
the Spanish forces but to concentrate for  
its defense.

"Gens. Gomez and Maceo will meet  
in the neighborhood of Weyler's famous  
trocha, in the province of Havana. They  
will have in the neighborhood of 55,000  
men, all veterans, and admirably equip-  
ped for the final struggle. It is by no  
means an exaggeration to say that in the  
style of warfare peculiar to Cuba this  
force is equal in strength to the Spanish  
army of 200,000 men that it proposes to  
conquer. It has the advantage of a  
friendly country to operate in and leaders  
who have heretofore been invincible.  
Against it Weyler will be forced to aban-  
don the trochas, evacuate every point  
of strategic importance on the island,  
and bend every effort of the Spanish ar-  
my to the holding of Havana, or meet  
the revolutionists in the open battle that  
they are longing for."

Col. Weatherley's service with the  
British armies in the African wars  
brought him in contact with a good many  
types of the modern soldier. He has not  
dreaded dollars would have bought the  
most wonderful collection of arms for  
hand-to-hand conflict ever got together  
in the world. There were no modern  
weapons, such as swords or rifles; no  
ammunition, and none of the appliances  
that go to make up the modern military  
equipment. Instead, they had all sorts  
of knives and clubs and makeshift de-  
vices that might do service in the  
exigencies of defense, but were of no  
value in aggressive warfare. Added to  
this, they were hungry and insufficiently  
clothed.

Now they are well equipped with  
modern arms in addition to their own  
formidable weapon, the machete, and are  
accustomed to the privations of the field  
and camp. It is this change more than  
anything else which gives the leaders  
confidence of final victory over the com-  
paratively large numbers of the Spanish  
army. They are absolutely self-reliant,  
and expect to win entirely by their own  
strength. There is no expectation that  
the United States will aid them in their  
struggle against Spain, nor that Spain,  
crippled by her poverty and dissensions  
at home, will abandon the conflict. If a  
war were to arise between the United  
States and Spain, Havana would fall with-  
in two months. Without such a war,

only fought with the British against the  
savages, but with savages against sav-  
ages in that country, when the Zulu trou-  
bles were at white heat. His opinion of  
the Cuban soldiers, after his year's ser-  
vice among them, is as follows:

"The first great question of war is the  
physical fitness of an army. The Cub-  
ans are distinctively great soldiers.  
Although these men are not of large  
frame, they are capable of greater en-  
durance than any nation or tribe I have  
ever met with, excepting possibly the  
Zulu. Whether they are on foot or on  
horseback, physical exhaustion is of very  
rare occurrence among them. I have  
seen them live many days on quantities  
of food that would seem incredibly small  
to keep the fire of life going. They have  
been nearly all the time under other  
equally dispiriting privation — without  
clothing, blankets, or hammocks in the  
wet weather. But notwithstanding all  
these troubles, their ardor is never for a  
moment dampened."

"That is the main advantage the  
Cubans have over the Spanish. I don't  
mean by this to say that the Spanish are  
not good soldiers. Their bravery can-  
not be questioned. They behave well  
in engagements, but they cannot get ac-  
customed to the Cuban machete and the  
irregular formation in which the Cubans  
always attack. The Cubans, unlike the  
Spanish, have grown up from childhood  
schooling to hardship and privation, and  
are acclimated. These are among the  
chief reasons of good judges in military  
affairs for believing that Cuba will win  
her fight."

Col. Weatherley will return to Cuba  
in time to join in the final movement  
against Havana.

**CIGARETTES AND SALIVA.**

In a well-known and much-frequented  
thoroughfare the process of cigarette-making  
is disavowed to the observation of an intelligent  
and inquiring public. The first process, and  
from the sanitary point of view the most  
interesting, is the making of the paper tubes.  
Sitting with a little brass roller in his hand  
and a book of papers before him, the oper-  
ator first takes his finger and then applies the  
wet extremity to the paper, on which he then  
means to appear to get a good hold. He  
rolls up the little tube, which is then flipped  
off the roller and that part of the process  
is finished. We do not want to say too much  
about it, but it is but one of the hundred thou-  
sand dirty things which are going on con-  
tinually around us, but it is not new. If we  
could put back the world for about thirty  
years we should probably be much happier.  
We could look upon other things and  
have no fear, and in fact we could do many  
other dirty tricks without a thought of evil.  
But if disease germs are entities, and if all  
that we have learned as to their relation to  
diseases is no more fantastic nonsense, com-  
munity of saliva must be bad, and many  
maladies must be transmissible by such means.  
— *British Medical Journal.*

AN American clergyman held a service at a  
winning camp in a church over a school.  
After the sermon the preacher ran his eye  
over the audience, and selected a certain  
ten-term gambler named Billy the Kibb.  
"Billy," he said, "take the collection."

Very much honored, Billy took his big  
satchel and held it for a young man on  
the foremost chair to donate.

The young man dropped in a quarter.  
Billy looked at it, then, putting his hand  
under his coat tails, drew his revolver, clicked it  
in the honor, and said:

"Young man, take that look. This here's a  
dollar's worth."

He got as many dollars as there were people.  
The statistics of the recent school census  
show that Chicago's population is made up of  
332,851 people born in America of American  
parents, 418,029 born in America of foreign  
parents, 40,740 born in America, one parent  
being American, and 850,624 born in foreign  
lands. The German element numbers 121,537,  
and of these 193,187 were not born in the United  
States. Ireland comes next with 226,036,  
of which 95,679 were born abroad. The total  
of Swedes is 100,022, slightly more than half  
of whom were not born in this country. Po-  
land contributes 87,450, Bohemia 50,014, Eng-  
land 36,258, Norway 45,789, Scotland 35,243,  
Canada 33,010, Russia 29,352, Italy 22,346, with  
the rest "scattered" led by the French, Dan-  
ish and Hollandish at about 20,000 each.

Primarily the most inconsistent theory in  
existence is that of protection. It insists on  
high import duties to protect home industries,  
which, of course, are protected only by the  
exclusion of foreign competitors. And then  
when the revenues become insufficient, high  
import duties are advocated to meet the defi-  
ciency. How is it possible to exclude foreign  
imports and produce a revenue from them at  
one and the same time?

# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES.—

79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESS:—CAIXA 360.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 12th, 1897.

THERE were renewed rumors last week of an impending revolutionary outbreak in Uruguay, and the redoubtable precautions of the authorities in that wretchedly misgoverned country would appear to confirm them. It was said that Aparicio Saravia is reorganizing his forces, and that the emigration of blancos from Montevideo continues. The recent attempt failed because it was premature, the revolutionary elements not having had time to organize and procure arms before the government forces were down on them. In these times of long-range fire-arms, an unorganized, badly-armed body of revolutionists has very little chance. To succeed, they must secure improved arms at the outset, and they must avoid decisive engagements until their forces are properly armed and organized. In Uruguay, the revolution ought to succeed, for a worse government could not be imagined, but it will fail unless the promoters bide their time and avoid a conflict until they are better organized. We have no doubt as to the issue were the revolutionists once able to assemble a large force of well-armed men, for the best men of the country, if not a great majority, are in hearty sympathy with any effort to overthrow the corrupt ring which is supreme at Montevideo. The extraordinary precautions taken to patrol the Uruguay river to prevent the revolutionists from crossing, will probably drive them to send expeditions to the Atlantic coast, at or above Maldonado. In doing this they might find an opportunity to organize, as the whole available force of the government is concentrated at Montevideo, along the Uruguay river, and at important points on the Brazilian frontier. In the interests of justice and good government we trust that some way will be found to overthrow the ring which now rules the country. We do not like the idea of a revolution for this, but there is really no other recourse. Elections are farcical in every respect, and the opposition stands no show whatever at the polls. The only power that can be made effective against the corrupt rulers of that unfortunate country is armed force, and in our opinion, it is better this than utter ruin and dishonor.

By a decree of the 8th inst. the prefect declared lapsed the concession held by the Empresa de Obras Publicas do Brazil for working the telephone lines of this city. It is stated by one of the morning journals that the company's service has been paralysed for some days, owing to the resolution of the employés to stop work because of the non-payment of their wages. Much more might have been said. The telephone service of this city has been in a paralysed condition for years, in fact ever since it passed into the hands of the company just now dis-

possessed. This company was one of the creations of the insane speculations of a few years past. It was organized by men of little or no experience in managing such enterprises, and who had no other object than to create pretentious companies and to obtain generous sums for promoting them and swollen salaries as directors for their invaluable efforts to manage them. The empresa in question acquired the ferry service to Niteroy, the tramway lines of Niteroy, the telephone service of this city, and many things besides. All of them have suffered, the telephone service most of all. Its lines fell out of repair and its service into confusion. Employing no practical electrician to keep its lines in order, and entrusting the administration to inexperienced men, no other result could reasonably have been expected. Too large a part of its income went to pay the salaries of useless directors, and much too small a part was expended on maintenance and skilled labor. In a short time the subscribers began to withdraw and a very large percentage of them have thus been lost, not because they do not want the telephone, but because they were unwilling to pay for a service almost continually out of order. Instead of making an effort to restore the efficiency of the lines, the company allowed it to drift along in the same disorganized and demoralized manner, and no protest ever roused its directors to anything more than vague promises. One instance will illustrate the situation fully. It was necessary for one of the hospitals here to have telephonic communication with the residence of its physician. The general service had been tried, but the lines were always out of order. About a year ago, the hospital concluded to try a private line, and the company was paid 5000 in advance for it, which was an excessive price inasmuch as the company was not required to put up a new wire. This too was a failure, and the hospital did not get a month's service in the whole year. Complaint after complaint was sent in, but without avail. Finally a man was sent to examine the line, but still it did not work. Another period of complaints and inattention followed, and then the superintendent recommended turning the private line into the general service, which could be better managed. This was done, and still the hospital telephone remained silent. And silent it is to this day. Under such administration, the telephone service of this city is worse than useless, for it not only fails to serve its patrons but stands in the way of those who might do better. We can lose nothing by the suspension of such a service, while we may gain much from the opportunity it affords for a new and better management.

THERE is one lesson in this failure of the telephone service which ought not to be lost. If we mistake not, this is the first concession which became public property through the expiration of its concession, by the terms of which its property was to pass into the possession of the municipality. When this event happened, the municipal government transferred it to the Empresa de Obras Publicas. We do not know the conditions of the transfer, nor is it necessary to inquire. The one important fact to consider is this—the service has been abominable, and the acquisition of the property by the municipality has led to utter failure. The management of such a service requires skilled men and active oversight, which can best be given by a private company. We do not say that it is impossible for the national or municipal government to provide such a management, but it is very unlikely. There is not a single public service in Brazil under the control of political administrators which is not mismanaged. They are hotbeds of corruption, and they are universally disorganized and wasteful. When it is remembered that the tramways and railways are all destined to this same fate—to the experience of the telephone service of this city—there is certainly food for serious reflection in the outlook.

Or all the villainous speculations which have ever come under our notice, that of the Santa Rita orphans' asylum is decidedly the worst. The judicial investigation has not yet been concluded, but enough has been brought to light to show us what an infamous den this so-called asylum really was. For some four years its founder and director, Basilio de Moraes, has been figuring before the public of Rio de Janeiro as a philanthropist, and the press has been industriously soliciting contributions for the support of his asylum for orphan girls. For a time Banker Mayrink figured as its protector, giving to it considerable sums, and then one of the countless sints of the holy church was brought into service as a decoy for the aims of indiscreet friends. And during these years no one ever took the trouble to visit the place to see what use was made of the contributions. Denounce the villain who deceived us as we may, the plain fact still remains that the press and the people of Rio de Janeiro are also responsible for the abuses committed. Some one should have inspected the place, and yet no one ever took the trouble! And it now transpires that many knew that the director was a man of immoral life, and one physician even says that he discontinued his visits long ago because he discovered that Basilio was living with a mistress. And what has been the result. During these four years the wretch Basilio de Moraes has been using this asylum as his lair. He has had two matrons for the place, who were not only his mistresses, but who assisted him to ruin the little girls consigned to the care of himself and Santa Rita. When he wanted any particular girl, she was sent to his room to "scratch his feet" or to "give him a bath." And if she resisted him, she was punished. When necessary, lodgings were taken outside to conceal his criminal conduct. And for four years this infamous speculation has been going on, and it is only now that it has been discovered. In the United States the wretch would have been lynched within twenty-four hours,—and we can not say that we would have tried to prevent it.

## A DESERVED RECOGNITION.

A very pleasing ceremony occurred on H. B.'s cruiser *Barracouta* on Friday last, 8th inst. the occasion being the presentation in behalf of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of a beautiful silver punch bowl to Mr. J. C. V. Mendes in recognition of services rendered to British naval men in this port during a long term of years. A number of Mr. Mendes' personal friends were present at the ceremony, which occurred in presence of the entire ship's crew. The presentation was made by Commander H. J. Keane, who first read the letter from the Lords Commissioners to the Senior Officer of the South Atlantic Squadron and the letter from that officer to himself. He then spoke of the services which Mr. Mendes had for many years rendered to Her Majesty's navy in the care of the sick which had been left ashore in this port, some of whom he had even received in his own house. While some might do such acts from feelings of patriotism, it should be remembered that Mr. Mendes has had no such motive. He is not a British subject, and could therefore not have been actuated by patriotism. The service rendered was urged solely by good will and kindness of heart, and it is good to know that there are men in this world who are governed by such feelings. Three rousing cheers were then given to Mr. and Mrs. Mendes by the crew and another to Commander Keane, after which the crew sang "For he's a jolly good fellow."

The letter to Mr. Mendes from the Senior Naval Officer of the Squadron was as follows:

H. M. S. "RETRIBUTION,"  
at Stanley, Falkland Islands,  
16th December, 1896

Sir.—It is with very great pleasure that I now send you, through Commander Henry J. Keane, C. M. G., of H. M. S. *Barracouta*, a Silver Bowl which the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been pleased to send to the Senior Naval Officer of Her Majesty's Squadron on the South East Coast of America for presentation to you, with expressions of their warm appreciation of your many acts of kindness to all members of Her Majesty's Navy for many years—notably (as the inscription thereon testifies) for your goodness to those who have been sick and left behind at Rio de Janeiro by their ships.

I am sure Commander Keane will adequately express in the name of our service the warm sense of appreciation and gratitude all wish conveyed to you—not indeed only by those who have personally experienced your kind and ever-ready attentions, but everyone in

that service to which you have proved such a friend.

I very much regret that owing to uncontrollable circumstances, (of which you are aware), there has been so much delay in executing their Lordships' commands, (for the Bowl was sent out in December last), and more particularly as I am now for the same reasons deprived of the honour and pleasure of making this presentation myself.

I can not omit, however, on this occasion, to express through Captain Keane, on behalf of my predecessors, as well as for myself, very great pleasure in their Lordships' gracious act, and a grateful sense of all your kindness extending over so many years to Her Majesty's squadrons in the station, coupled with sincere wishes that you may be spared many happy and prosperous years in the enjoyment of the affectionate regards you have earned from Her Majesty's Navy.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. J. SORRECK,  
Captain and Senior Officer,  
S. E. Coast of America Station

In reply Mr. Mendes said:  
*Captain Keane.*

To the honour I am now receiving I consider I am hardly entitled, as the small services I have occasionally rendered to the Royal Navy were in return for very many favours received from all ranks, from the admiral down to the youngest blue-jacket boys. Yet, as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty desire to present me with this very handsome piece of silver, I beg of you, Captain Keane, in reply to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty my very sincere thanks, and to the Royal Navy in general my very best thanks. Permit me to wish the *Barracouta* a very pleasant voyage home.

The punch bowl, which is a beautiful piece of work and was suitably larded with champagne in honor of the occasion, bears the following inscription:

PRESENTED BY THE  
LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF THE ADMIRALTY  
TO SENIOR JOAQUIM C. V. MENDES  
IN RECOGNITION OF ACTS OF KINDNESS  
EXTENDING OVER MANY YEARS  
SHOWN BY HIM TO SICK MEN OF  
HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S FLEET  
DURING THE ABSENCE OF THEIR SHIPS  
FROM THE PORT  
OF RIO DE JANEIRO.

Mr. Mendes was warmly congratulated on this pleasing tribute to his unvaried kindness and consideration to the officers and men who have visited this port during so many years, to which we desire to add our own personal compliments. Mr. Mendes has been in personal relationship with the British and American squadrons visiting this port for about forty years, and there are thousands of naval men who remember his courtesy and kindness to them and who will be glad to hear of this appreciative recognition of his many services.

## PROVINCIAL NOTES

—In Campinas last year there were 2,676 deaths and 1,044 births.

—The population of Niteroy is estimated at 50,000. It is a generous estimate.

—It is stated that the governor of Pará will shortly publish a book on positivism and Darwinism.

—Luiz Tarquínio has resumed his place on the municipal council of Bahia, which declined to accept his resignation.

—At Jaboticabal, São Paulo, there were registered 92 marriages, 496 births and 286 deaths during the past year.

—The judge who some time ago was deposed at Manaus, S. Paulo, and afterwards reinstated, has since obtained a leave of absence.

—A dentist at Pernambuco is stated to have discovered a new anæsthetic. It is extracted from a fruit which is said to be found in abundance in the vicinity of that city.

—At S. João da Boa Vista, São Paulo, there were registered in December 12 marriages, 87 births, and 120 deaths. During the whole year the marriages numbered 189, the births 950 and the deaths 752.

—A telegram of the 7th inst. from Campos states that Barão de Miracema intends calling a meeting of prominent public men from all parts of the state of Rio de Janeiro for the purpose of organizing an opposition party.

—The residence of President Prudente de Moraes at Threesapolis has conferred at least one benefit on the people of that place. They now get their Rio mail at 6 o'clock p.m., instead of having to wait till the following day.

—The *Anti-Pernambuco* (Christmas number) announces the arrival there of Rev. Dr. Fraser, who has come out as *Evangelist* for Rev. W. E. Mackay. The latter sailed for England a short time ago on a well-earned holiday.

—Sorocaba as well as São Paulo is complaining of the women of immoral lives who fail to observe proper decorum. Apparently it is not of the vice itself, but of the manners of the frail ones, that complaint is made. For gentlemen of irreproachable habits, the practice of polite usages are desirable, even in their vices.

—The *Tribuna do Lago* of Santos says that the gas well at Villa Macaco is not an ordinary phenomenon. The director and secretary of that paper visited the place a few days ago, and they decided not only that, but that the flame was of internal origin. They discovered this from nothing its color.

—The dominant party in the state of Rio de Janeiro has issued a manifesto violently assailing Vice-President Manoel Victorino. It declares that it severs its political connection with him and withdraws the support which it has hitherto given to his administration. It is asserted that several members of the party have gone to Theropis for the purpose of urging President Prudente de Moraes to remove him.

—A bad epidemic is raging at Macahé, to which no name is given, but which appears to be yellow fever. Week before last the deaths rose to eight in one day from this disease alone, which for a town of five thousand population shows a mortality of 2,000 a year, or 581 per thousand per annum. This is something horrible and should be investigated. Our informant says that the women and children suffer most.

—In 1844 the town of Santos, including a few outlying settlements today described as suburbs, had a population of 2,694 free persons and 2,155 slaves. The town proper had 20 streets, 567 hearths (*fogos*) and 2,170 inhabitants. Singularly enough the females outnumbered the males in both the town and its dependent settlements, being 1,071 males and 1,399 females in the former, and 1,316 males and 1,574 females in the total free population.

—The municipal council of Santos some time since resolved to establish a new cemetery (Sinhão) on certain lands, and a lawsuit resulted with the proprietor over the matter. Recently the courts decided in favor of the proprietor and condemned the council to pay 130,000\$. The council has now decided to return the lands. This looks like a very curious business, but one can never know what an official personage considers himself privileged to do.

—The police *delegado* at S. Borja, Rio Grande do Sul, who appears to think that martial law still exists throughout the country, issued an order on November 23rd last, forbidding all transit in that municipality to non-residents not provided with police passes. He also forbade the crossing the frontier except at a specified place where the traveler should present himself to the police. The rights and privileges of the Brazilian citizen seem to be rather limited in Rio Grande, as well as in some other states. And yet there are still some politicians who tell us that Brazil became free with the overthrow of the monarchy!

—In S. Paulo on the 5th inst. a boy of 13 years of age, who gave his name as José Maurício, called at the police office and related the following:—On the previous day he and his father, Manoel Maurício, took the train for Santos. Arriving there, they went to a grocery, where Manoel ascended to the first floor, leaving his son below. The latter soon after heard his father's voice pleading that his life might be spared. Then a man descended the stairs with a large knife and the boy ran away in fright. He walked through the streets all night and on the next morning took the train for S. Paulo, where, as has been said, he related the foregoing story to the police. A police investigation is said to have demonstrated that Manoel Maurício is still alive and that the events narrated by the boy are purely imaginary.

—The force that is operating against Antonio Conselheiro, says a Bahia telegram of the 8th inst., will march in three columns. The first, under the command of Lieut. Hilário Dias, is composed of a detachment of the 1st battalion of infantry, two Krupp guns and 3 machine guns; the 2nd, of two companies of 25th and 32nd battalions commanded by Capt. José de Andrade; the 3rd, of two companies of state police under the command of Capt. Virgílio de Almeida. The whole force, numbering 15 officers and 500 enlisted men, is commanded by Maj. Pedro Maria de Brito. It was reported in Bahia at that date that the force had reached the vicinity of Camamu. There Conselheiro is said to be fortified, having been recently joined according to the local press, by several bands of armed followers from various localities in the state.

—During recent excavations at Ondina, a discovery was made that possesses no little interest to the antiquarian. It indeed bore any such out here. The find consisted of three funeral urns of fire-burned clay, two of them standing some three feet in height, and having a circumference of nearly four feet in height, the third being about half these dimensions, all having a conical shape somewhat similar to the lower part of a soda water bottle. These urns when unearthed contained bones, but exposure to the air almost instantly reduced the remains to powder. The vessels are not sufficiently large to contain an adult human body intact, and indeed their mouths are too narrow to admit of one being placed therein. It is assumed that the human relics found are exhumed bones, but whether of ancient Dutch settlers, or some christian wife and child of an indigenous tribe, we are not in a position to state. Unfortunately, with true British workman's care, a pickaxe was driven through the first urn found (to see what was inside); the others were, however, removed without sustaining injury, and any one sufficiently interested can see them at the house of Captain Campos at Ondina. There is no trace of any inscription on the urns, nor any clue to the time which they must have lain buried.—*Bahia Monthly*.

—In the municipal cemetery of Rio Claro, S. Paulo, there were 854 interments in 1896.

—At Santos the volcano having been closed by the mud, sticks and stones thrown into the crater, several persons went to reopen it, and in doing so were severely burnt. They set fire to a newspaper and then held it over the volcano to see if it would ignite—and it did!

—The British colony of Bahia had raised 9,318,720 up to December 23rd for the widow and children of the late Rev. Cecil F. Luckman. It is expected to considerably increase this total before the subscription is closed, and the committee will be glad to hear from any friends of the late chaplain outside of Bahia who may wish to contribute to the fund. Letters may be addressed to Mr. Nicolson, British consul. Mr. Luckman was deservedly popular in Bahia, and we are glad to see so generous a response to the appeal in behalf of his widow and children.

#### RIO GRANDE DO SUL.

A communication published in the *Reforma* of Porto Alegre says that the garrison of Livramento is in a wretched state of discipline.

Cod. Thomaz Flores has ordered the release of Major Severino and Ensign Oscar Capistrano, who had been arrested for reasons that are not stated.

The amount of revenue collected last month is not sufficient to pay the troops, and it will consequently be necessary to draw on the federal treasury.

The term of service of many of the soldiers has expired, but they have not been able to obtain their discharges.

Rio Grande papers say that some time ago the police delegate of S. Borja issued orders for the arrest of anyone who attempted to enter or leave the municipal district without a passport.

At the Rio Grande custom-house valuable packages, it is stated, have been clandestinely smuggled and replaced by others of little or no value.

Senator Ramiro Barcellos, who is now in the state, is reported to attribute the recent decline in exchange to the belief that President Prudente de Moraes is about to resume office. And yet Ramiro Barcellos' name was frequently mentioned recently for the portfolio of finance!

The same senator and the firm of Muller & Wilmar of Rio de Janeiro, are said to form part of a syndicate for shipping cattle to this city from the state of Rio Grande.

The bishop is reported to have been hissed at Santa Maria for preaching against civil marriage.

The frauds to which the castillistas resorted for the purpose of carrying the congressional elections have given rise to heated discussions in the press.

Dr. Angelo Dourado, who took a prominent part in the war in Rio Grande, has published a history of the war.

In the city of Rio Grande in a fight in which four soldiers were engaged, one of them was killed.

Four houses were destroyed by fire in Pelotas on the 6th inst.

The election of members of the state legislature will be held on March 1.

#### RAILROAD NOTES

A large number of employees of the Central railway have been dismissed for various reasons during the past fortnight. The director is evidently trying to enforce discipline and responsibility in his staff.

On the 7th the directors of the Leopoldina altered the director of the Central of an interconnection on the former line at kilometer 218, and requested the suspension of freight dispatches for points beyond S. Genardo.

A Pernambuco telegram of the 7th inst. says that the dismissal of about 1,200 employees of the Pernambuco Central railway is unjust and is causing great complaints, because the government is owing them three months' pay.

During the month of December the São Paulo railway lines carried 1,125,651 paying passengers, against 1,039,417 in the same month of 1895, and 11,000 persons who enjoy the privilege of riding free. This free pass business, which is principally enjoyed by officials, was therefore equivalent to a forced tax of at least 4,100\$ for the month.

A communication has been received this week in London from the Brazilian financial minister, saying that he would be glad to receive representatives of an English group, who have gone out to Brazil to examine and report upon the Central Brazilian railway, with the view of purchasing it from the government, but that the law requires that the railway be put up for sale by tender. There are French and German groups, likewise represented, and apparently the competition between the three will be keen, unless the inspection of the line should determine one or more of them to retire, or two or more should combine among themselves, or the government should demand an extravagant price.—*Statist*, Dec. 19.

#### THE RAILWAY LEASES.

On Sunday the *Páris Official* published the official inviting tenders for the lease of the eight government railways. The conditions have been in great part specified already. The new ones are as follows:

The bids will be received up to 15th May in Rio de Janeiro, London, Paris, Berlin, Brussels and Washington.

The railways leased will enjoy the favors of dispropportion and free entry for imported materials.

The government accepts proposals for the lease of these railways singly or all together. In the former case, the guarantee deposit for the Central will be 4,000,000 and its quota for fiscalization will be 10,000\$ a year.

The roads to be leased are:

Central do Brazil: 1,217 kilometres in traffic; 1895 gross receipts 27,945,052\$283; expenses not given.

Batúrdi-Corral: 241.8 kilometres; 1895 receipts 895,065\$415.

Solari-Corral: 216.2 kilometres; 1895 receipts 210,351\$274.

Sul do Pernambuco: 193.9 kilometres; 1895 receipts 617,181\$288.

Central do Pernambuco: 161 kilometres; 1895 receipts 738,532\$849.

S. Francisco: 1,341.4 kilometres; 1895 receipts 692,258\$777.

Paulista-Minas: 1,165.7 kilometres; 1895 receipts 87,411\$867.

Porto Alegre a Canguçu (Rio Grande do Sul): 587 kilometres; 1895 receipts 2,109 137\$985.

#### COFFEE NOTES

The work of setting out coffee trees in the municipal district of Itaboraí, S. Paulo, is said to be progressing rapidly. There are now estimated to be about 2,000,000 coffee trees in that district.

At Santos a committee of merchants appointed to estimate the next coffee crop for that port at 3,500,000 bags and the quantity belonging to the present crop, still to be received up to June 30 at 1,000,000 bags.

The shipments of coffee last year at the port of Santos were as follows:

From the state of S. Paulo	bags	3,517,258
" " Minas Geraes	"	257,510
Total	"	4,035,068

The official value of this coffee was 274,797,370\$54.

The receipts of coffee at the Docas Nacionais last year were as follows:

From the state of Minas Geraes	bags	1,369,646
" " Rio de Janeiro	"	997,644
" " S. Paulo	"	190,406
" " Espírito Santo	"	81,929
" " Bahia	"	920
Total	"	2,649,205

#### LOCAL NOTES

The Friburgo police was visited on the 6th inst. by 4,240 persons.

Dr. Porciani, ex-minister to Uruguay, arrives here on the *Thander* to-day.

The government has promoted Sr. Alberto Pálido to the post of minister at Montevideo.

The government has accepted Dr. Porciani's resignation of the office of minister to Uruguay.

The Catholic brotherhood has consented to take charge of the Santa Rita de Cássia girls' orphan asylum.

Gen. Custódio, who was Gen. Floriano Peixoto's last minister of war, has been appointed adjutant-general of the army.

By an *ação* of the 1st ult. the minister of war forbids the enlistment of any but native-born Brazilians in the national army.

Dr. Xavier da Silveira after the publication of the decree appointing him minister of justice and interior, decided to decline the appointment.

Many of the persons who less than two months ago were rejoicing over Manoel Victorino's assumption of office are now clamoring for the return of Prudente.

A tenement house on Rua Gonzaga, Bastos, a police inspector last Tuesday was severely beaten by a woman with a bunch of ears of Indian corn. The woman was arrested.

Telegraphic reports of Dr. Zaurdelli's discovery of the yellow fever microbe continue to arrive. He is said to have reported his discovery to the academy of medicine at Rome.

Dr. Barata says that at the 7th polling-place in the 1st district of S. José 70 votes were cast and 198 were counted. Of these 55 were given to Thomaz Delfino, for whom in reality only 53 votes were cast. Dr. Barata says that he believes that many such frauds were committed.

The police are still after the gambling houses in the neighborhood of the Lago do Rio, but we have not heard of any raids on the well-known casinos in Botafogo. Some time ago there was a general movement against that most vulgar of all the gambling devices in the city, the *pega do bicho*, but we see that the game is still going on and that its promoters are even advertised in the papers.

Among the rumors about last Tuesday regarding the Vice-President's second selection for the department of justice, was one mentioning the name of Deputy Medeiros e Albuquerque. It would be a rare appointment surely—that of a man who treacherously attempted to assassinate another in a crowded railway station! Such a minister would represent a very queer idea of justice.

After a week of intense heat, a cold rain storm came up on Saturday evening last and this continued up to the present moment. It caused a refreshing change in the temperature.

*Whitaker's Almanack*, 1897. We are indebted to Messrs. Street Brothers, Limited, of 19, New Bridge Street, London, for a copy of this standard annual publication.

Although we give only occasional notices of suicides and homicides, it should not be presumed that they do not exist in this city. On the contrary they are very common, particularly assassinations.

A man advertises in one of the daily papers of this city that he is suffering from the effects of witchcraft. He offers to pay 50\$ to be cured and asks to any one who will find an expert that can cure him.

The *Paz* contradicts the report that Quintino Bonayá is going to resign his seat in the senate. Personally, we have never believed the report, for an instant. Quintino may die, but he'll never resign.

The Spindler is still crushing the Cuban revolution by means of official telegrams. Imaginary victims may serve a good purpose in keeping matters quiet in Spain, but they will not deceive the outside world.

It is expected that the Supreme Court at its sitting to-morrow will render a decision on the suit of royal officers involving the question of the constitutionality of the restrictive clause of the amnesty law.

Dr. Eneio Coelho testifies that Senator Quintino Bonayá is not responsible for federal intervention in the state of Rio de Janeiro. The executive committee of the partido republicano, however, evidently thinks otherwise.

The cruiser *Boulevard Constant* left port yesterday on a voyage of instruction, which will last 25 to 30 days. The cruiser carries the granite shaft which is to be erected on Trindade Island, and also carries a *jangada* to carry it ashore.

There is an impression abroad that the minister of war, General Vasquez, ordered the suspension of all recruiting. And yet, within the last fortnight, we saw a large body of recruits pass our door, escorted by a detachment of regulars.

The name of ex-Senator Coelho Rodrigues has been mentioned as a possible appointee as minister of justice. This would be so good an appointment that we are inclined to think it improbable. Two recent invitations for the post have lately been declined.

The British cruiser *Barraqueta*, Com. Henry J. Keane, arrived here on the 6th inst. from Montevideo, homeward bound, and left for Bahia and Pernambuco on the 8th. The *Barraqueta* will be substituted by the *Engle*, now on her way out to this station.

The practice of cheating passengers out of their change on the Santa Theresa electric tram line is still going on. It would be a wise precaution for passengers to always provide themselves with the exact change, for they can expect no relief from the Caricua office.

During rainy weather it would be good policy for passengers on the Santa Theresa electric trains to carry with them some kind of a cloth to dry the seats. The company and its employees seem to have no idea of such little ministrations to the comfort of their customers.

Quite a number of florinistas have recently been appointed to important offices by Vice-President Manoel Victorino. We can account for this only on the supposition that the Vice-President's object is to annoy and embarrass the President when the latter resumes office.

The Vice-President seems to have surprised everyone by his political versatility. He has not only initiated a general scheme of economy, which may or may not succeed, a sanitary commission which killed itself with talk, and a new theory of official responsibility, but he has now evolved an interpretation of the federal powers that has created an eruption in his own party. Even Glycerio stands aghast.

Such sayings are peculiar, to say the least, that the authorization for the new French bank to establish a branch in Brazil, and the news of a loan to the government from the same bank, should have been made public about the same time. He had understood that the government was opposed to the creation of any more foreign banks here. Brown says, however, that Smith never could see through a brick wall.

The quarrel between the dominant party in the state of Rio de Janeiro and Vice-President Manoel Victorino has led to some interesting disclosures. From these it appears that in 1892 Senator Quintino Bonayá was forced on the party by Marshal Floriano Peixoto, who, however, was successfully resisted when at a later period he endeavored to compel the party to hold elections under martial law.

There was a formal examination of the watch Balthão dos Santos at the 16th precinct of the 7th inst. and a large crowd of people assembled. Fearing disorder, the pretor asked for a police force, and a detachment of mounted men was sent. Instead of maintaining order, these men at once began promoting disturbances, attacking the people and trying to ride them down. The *Gazeta de Notícias* says that the policemen were drunk, and even the *Jornal do Commercio* hints at the same thing by applying the word "cavalheiros" to them. Such a police force is a disgrace to any community.









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